

DRONES

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Chapter 1
FIRE AND ICE

The sky is dark.
A red light glows.
Boom!
Fire shoots up.
Sparks fly.
Hot *lava* pours out.
It slides down a sheet of ice.

A volcano is *erupting*.
It is in Iceland.

Iceland has many volcanoes.

They erupt often.

The lava is hot.

It burns the land.

The heat melts the ice.

Then there are problems.

Mud flows.

Towns flood.

Houses fall.

People have to move.

Experts want to help.

But no one can get close.

The lava is too hot.

Breathing the air is dangerous.





ICELAND





It was 2014.
Eric Cheng flew to Iceland.
He had an idea.
People could not go into the volcano.
But he had a tool that could.

Cheng drove near the volcano.
Then he hiked in closer.
He wore a *gas mask*.
The air was bad.
It was full of hot dust.



DRONE DATA

Eric Cheng travels the world. He uses his flying camera to film nature, animals, and sporting events.

He sent up a small helicopter.
A camera was attached.
The chopper flew close to the volcano.
It filmed the lava.
Cheng *tracked* it on his phone.
Then something went wrong.
He could not see the chopper.



Cheng waited.
Then he heard a sound.
The chopper came back.
It was hot.
Heat had melted the camera.
But the **SD card** was fine.
Cheng still had video of the volcano.
He could show it to others.